

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a  
2 user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name that comprises a  
3 filename and an extension, said method comprising:  
4 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a single file in  
5 the plurality of files in said digital processing system and which  
6 indicates how to display an extension of the file;  
7 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
8 determined by said indicator.
- 1 2. A method as in claim 1 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.
- 1 3. A method as in claim 2 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file,  
2 or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding  
3 the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the  
4 extension.
- 1 4. A method as in claim 3 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2 automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3 extension of the file in the user interface.

- 1 5. A method as in claim 3 further comprising:  
2 updating said indicator in response to an input event.
- 1 6. A method as in claim 5 wherein the input event is that a new name is specified  
2 in the user interface for the file.
- 1 7. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2 said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.
- 1 8. A method as in claim 7 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by the  
2 new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.
- 1 9. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name contains no extension and  
2 the extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state  
3 that takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.
- 1 10. A method as in claim 6 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2 a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3 user interface.
- 1 11. A method as in claim 10 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2 the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3 new name.

1 12. A method as in claim 3 further comprising:  
2 detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension has a  
3 naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and a  
4 second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5 the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6 the user interface.

1 13. A method as in claim 12 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.

1 14. A method as in claim 12 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2 are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3 conflict is detected.

4 15. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:  
5 exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
6 system when the file is transferred to the remote system.

1 16. A method as in claim 15 further comprising:  
2 exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to  
3 the remote system.

1 17. A method as in claim 1 further comprising:

2 importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a  
3 remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system.

1 18. A method as in claim 17 further comprising:  
2 importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred  
3 from the remote system.

1 19. A method comprising:  
2 detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file container in  
3 a digital processing system with a user interface, said first file having a  
4 first extension and a first filename, said second file having a second  
5 extension and a second filename, wherein said first file has a first  
6 indicator which is specific for said first file and which indicates the  
7 first extension is displayed in the user interface in a first style using a  
8 first displayed name and said second file has a second indicator which  
9 indicates the second extension is displayed in the user interface in a  
10 second style using a second displayed name.

1 20. A method as in claim 19 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1 21. A method as in claim 19 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2 are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict  
3 is detected.

1 22. A machine readable media for use with a digital processing system which has  
2 a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3 extension, said machine readable media containing executable computer  
4 program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5 causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a single file in  
7 the plurality of files in said digital processing system and which  
8 indicates how to display an extension of the file;  
9 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
10 determined by said indicator.

1 23. A media as in claim 22 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.

1 24. A media as in claim 23 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file,  
2 or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding  
3 the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the  
4 extension.

1 25. A media as in claim 24 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2 automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3 extension of the file in the user interface.

- 1 26. A media as in claim 24 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 updating said indicator in response to an input event.
- 1 27. A media as in claim 26 wherein the input event is that a new name is specified  
2 in the user interface for the file.
- 1 28. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2 said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.
- 1 29. A media as in claim 28 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by the  
2 new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.
- 1 30. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name contains no extension and the  
2 extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state that  
3 takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.
- 1 31. A media as in claim 27 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2 a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3 user interface.
- 1 32. A media as in claim 31 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2 the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3 new name.

- 1 33. A media as in claim 24 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension has a  
3 naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and a  
4 second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5 the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6 the user interface.
- 1 34. A media as in claim 33 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.
- 1 35. A media as in claim 33 wherein if the first filename and the first extension are  
2 the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3 conflict is detected.
- 1 36. A media as in claim 22 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
3 system when the file is transferred to the remote system.
- 1 37. A media as in claim 36 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to  
3 the remote system.
- 1 38. A media as in claim 22 wherein the method further comprises:

2 importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a  
3 remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system.

1 39. A media as in claim 38 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred  
3 from the remote system.

1 40. A machine readable media for use with a digital processing system which has  
2 a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3 extension, said machine readable media containing executable computer  
4 program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5 causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6 detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file container in  
7 the digital processing system, said first file having a first extension and  
8 a first filename, said second file having a second extension and a  
9 second filename, wherein said first file has a first indicator which is  
10 specific for said first file and which indicates the first extension is  
11 displayed in the user interface in a first style using a first displayed  
12 name and said second file has a second indicator which indicates the  
13 second extension is displayed in the user interface in a second style  
14 using a second displayed name.



- 1 41. A media as in claim 40 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.
- 1 42. A media as in claim 40 wherein if the first filename and the first extension are  
2 the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict is  
3 detected.
- 1 43. A digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each  
2 file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension, said system  
3 comprising:  
4 means for associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a  
5 single file in the plurality of files in said digital processing system and  
6 which indicates how to display extensions of the files;  
7 means for displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a  
8 style determined by said indicator.
- 1 44. A system as in claim 43 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.
- 1 45. A system as in claim 44 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file,  
2 or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding

3 the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the  
4 extension.

1 46. A system as in claim 45 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2 automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3 extension of the file in the user interface.

1 47. A system as in claim 45 further comprising:  
2 means for updating said indicator in response to an input event.

1 48. A system as in claim 47 wherein the input event is that a new name is  
2 specified in the user interface for the file.

1 49. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name contains no extension, then  
2 said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface.

1 50. A system as in claim 49 wherein only the filename of the file is replaced by  
2 the new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.

1 51. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name contains no extension and  
2 the extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is set to a state  
3 that takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.

1 52. A system as in claim 48 wherein if the new name comprising an extension and  
2 a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the  
3 user interface.

1 53. A system as in claim 52 wherein the filename of the file and the extension of  
2 the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the  
3 new name.

1 54. A system as in claim 45 further comprising:  
2 means for detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension  
3 has a naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and  
4 a second extension, wherein said first file has a first displayed name in  
5 the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in  
6 the user interface.

1 55. A system as in claim 54 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.

1 56. A system as in claim 54 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2 are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming  
3 conflict is detected.

1 57. A system as in claim 43 further comprising:

2 means for exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file  
3 to a remote system when the file is transferred to the remote system.

1 58. A system as in claim 57 further comprising:  
2 means for exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is  
3 transferred to the remote system.

1 59. A system as in claim 43 further comprising:  
2 means for importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file  
3 from a remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
4 system.

1 60. A system as in claim 59 further comprising:  
2 means for importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is  
3 transferred from the remote system.

1 61. A digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each  
2 file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension, said system  
3 comprising:  
4 means for detecting a conflict in naming a first file and a second file in a file  
5 container in the digital processing system, said first file having a first  
6 extension and a first filename, said second file having a second  
7 extension and a second filename, wherein said first file has a first  
8 indicator which is specific for said first file and which indicates the

9 first extension is displayed in the user interface in a first style using a  
10 first displayed name and said second file has a second indicator which  
11 indicates the second extension is displayed in the user interface in a  
12 second style using a second displayed name.

1 62. A system as in claim 61 wherein if the first displayed name is the same as the  
2 second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1 63. A system as in claim 61 wherein if the first filename and the first extension  
2 are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a conflict  
3 is detected.

1 64. A processing system comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a display device coupled to said processor, said display device displaying a  
4 user interface;  
5 a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing a plurality of files,  
6 each file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension,  
7 said memory storing an indicator for a file which is user selectable for  
8 a single file in said plurality of files and which indicates how to  
9 display an extension associated with the file, said processor displaying  
10 a displayed name of said file in said user interface in a style  
11 determined by said indicator.

1 65. A processing system as in claim 64 wherein the style is such that the displayed  
2 name contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for  
3 showing the extension of the file.

1 66. A processing system as in claim 65 wherein said indicator is a bit, a file, an  
2 entry in a file, or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state  
3 indicates hiding the extension and said indicator in another state indicates  
4 showing the extension.

1 67. A processing system as in claim 66 wherein if the file is newly created with an  
2 automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the  
3 extension of the file in the user interface.

1 68. A processing system as in claim 66 further comprising:  
2 an input device coupled with said processor, said processor updating said  
3 indicator in response to an input event detected by said input device.

1 69. A processing system as in claim 68 wherein the input event is that a new name  
2 is specified in the user interface for the file.

1 70. A processing system as in claim 69 wherein if the new name contains no  
2 extension, then said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user  
3 interface.

- 1 71. A processing system as in claim 70 wherein only the filename of the file is  
2 replaced by the new name so that the extension of the file is not changed.
- 1 72. A processing system as in claim 69 wherein if the new name contains no  
2 extension and the extension of the file is an empty string, then said indicator is  
3 set to a state that takes a minimum amount of memory to store said state.
- 1 73. A processing system as in claim 69 wherein if the new name comprising an  
2 extension and a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of  
3 the file in the user interface.
- 1 74. A processing system as in claim 73 wherein the filename of the file and the  
2 extension of the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the  
3 extension of the new name.
- 1 75. A processing system as in claim 66 wherein said processor detects if a first  
2 file that has a first filename and a first extension has a naming conflict with a  
3 second file that has a second filename and a second extension, wherein said  
4 first file has a first displayed name in the user interface and said second file  
5 has a second displayed name in the user interface.
- 1 76. A processing system as in claim 75 wherein if the first displayed name is the  
2 same as the second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected.

1 77. A processing system as in claim 75 wherein if the first filename and the first  
2 extension are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then  
3 a naming conflict is detected.

1 78. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2 a network interface coupled to the said processor, said processor exports both  
3 the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote system  
4 when the file is transferred to the remote system through said network  
5 interface.

1 79. A processing system as in claim 78 wherein said processor exports said  
2 indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to the remote  
3 system through said network interface.

1 80. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2 a removable memory coupled to the said processor, said processor exports  
3 both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote  
4 system when the file is transferred to the remote system through said  
5 removable memory.

1 81. A processing system as in claim 80 wherein said processor exports said  
2 indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to the remote  
3 system through said removable memory.



1 82. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2 a network interface coupled to the said processor, said processor imports both  
3 the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a remote  
4 system when the file is transferred from the remote system through  
5 said network interface.

1 83. A processing system as in claim 82 wherein said processor imports said  
2 indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
3 system through said network interface.

1 84. A processing system as in claim 64 further comprising:  
2 a removable memory coupled to the said processor, said processor imports  
3 both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a remote  
4 system when the file is transferred from the remote system through  
5 said removable memory.

1 85. A processing system as in claim 84 wherein said processor imports said  
2 indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred from the remote  
3 system through said removable memory.

1 86. A processing system comprising:  
2 a processor;

3 a display device coupled to said processor, said display device displaying a  
4 user interface;  
5 a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing in a file container a  
6 first file which has a first extension and a first filename, said memory  
7 storing in said file container a second file which has a second filename  
8 and a second extension, said memory storing a first indicator that is  
9 specific for said first file and that indicates the first extension is  
10 displayed in the user interface in a first style using a first displayed  
11 name, said memory storing a second indicator that indicates the second  
12 extension is displayed in the user interface in a second style using a  
13 second displayed name, said processor detects a conflict in naming the  
14 first file and the second file.

1 87. A processing system as in claim 86 wherein if the first displayed name is the  
2 same as the second displayed name, then a conflict is detected.

1 88. A processing system as in claim 86 wherein if the first filename and the first  
2 extension are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then  
3 a conflict is detected.

1 89. A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a  
2 user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name that comprises a  
3 filename and an extension, said method comprising:

4 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of files  
5 in the plurality of files which have the same extension in said digital  
6 processing system and which indicates how to display an extension of  
7 the file;  
8 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
9 determined by said indicator.

1 90. A method as in claim 89 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.

1 91. A machine readable medium for use with a digital processing system which  
2 has a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name and an  
3 extension, said machine readable medium containing executable computer  
4 program instructions which when executed by said digital processing system  
5 causes said system to perform a method comprising:  
6 associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of files  
7 in the plurality of files which have the same extension in said digital  
8 processing system and which indicates how to display an extension of  
9 the file;  
10 displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style  
11 determined by said indicator.

1 92. A medium as in claim 91 wherein the style is such that the displayed name  
2 contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the  
3 extension of the file.

1 93. A method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a  
2 user interface, said method comprising:  
3 associating a first file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of  
4 a plurality of files in the digital processing system, said indicator  
5 indicating that first extensions of said subset of files are displayed in a  
6 user interface in a first style which is different from a second style  
7 used to display at least a second file in said plurality of files, wherein  
8 said second file is not in said subset and has a second extension which  
9 is the same as at least one of said first extensions;  
10 displaying in said first style a first displayed name of said first file in the user  
11 interface.

1 94. A method as in claim 93 wherein said first style and said second style are  
2 selected from a set of styles, said set of styles comprising  
3 (a) showing an extension of a file being displayed; and  
4 (b) hiding an extension of a file being displayed.

1 95. A method as in claim 94 further comprising:

2 storing an option, wherein said option in one state indicates that unknown  
3 extensions are not extensions of files and said option on another state  
4 indicates that unknown extensions are extensions of files.  
5 determining an extension of a file using said option.

1 96. A machine readable medium for use with a digital processing system which  
2 has a user interface and a plurality of files, said machine readable medium  
3 containing executable computer program instructions which when executed by  
4 said digital processing system causes said system to perform a method  
5 comprising:  
6 associating a first file with an indicator which is user selectable for a subset of  
7 a plurality of files in the digital processing system, said indicator  
8 indicating that first extensions of said subset of files are displayed in a  
9 user interface in a first style which is different from a second style  
10 used to display at least a second file in said plurality of files, wherein  
11 said second file is not in said subset and has a second extension which  
12 is the same as at least one of said first extensions;  
13 displaying in said first style a first displayed name of said first file in the user  
14 interface.

1 97. A media as in claim 96 wherein said first style and said second style are  
2 selected from a set of styles, said set of styles comprising  
3 (a) showing an extension of a file being displayed; and

4 (b) hiding an extension of a file being displayed.

1 98. A media as in claim 97 wherein the method further comprises:  
2 storing an option, wherein said option in one state indicates that unknown  
3 extensions are not extensions of files and said option on another state  
4 indicates that unknown extensions are extensions of files.  
5 determining an extension of a file using said option.

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